

Authors

***Duxbury, A Guide* by Katherine Pillsbury to Debut for Holidays**

By PAULA MAXWELL

The Duxbury Rural and Historical Society has some good news to announce this week with the publication of its latest work, *Duxbury, A Guide* by Katherine Pillsbury.

"The aim of this project is to give people an introduction to sites of Duxbury incorporated in an historical context," she said.

Pillsbury, who has served as town historian since 1984, said the soft cover 145-page full color guide represents the culmination of three years of research. Some 58 historic sites in town are described in detail with rich historical in-

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formation and grouped by neighborhood in six sections defined by different eras from the first inhabitants to up to 1900.

Pillsbury became town historian after serving for many years as librarian at Noble and Greenough School in Dedham. She is a professional archivist who interned at the Mass. Historical Society and assisted on the Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Mass. She was co-editor of *The Duxbury Book* published in

1987 and editor of three other DR&HS publications.

She credits Bob Hale, formerly of the organization's publications committee, with suggesting the need to update the society's last guide, *Roundabout Duxbury*, written by former town historian Dorothy Wentworth with printings in 1965, 1975 and 1981. Hale provides an introduction for the new book.

Duxbury, A Guide includes suggestions for places to visit along with maps which group Duxbury sites by time, period and location.

Historic houses, museums, public buildings, monuments, protected open spaces and trails are all part of the guide which also updates recent town land acquisitions such as the Camp Wing property in West Duxbury.

Five maps and over 100 color and black and white photographs enhance the detailed descriptions of the 58 landmarks.

Pillsbury said she has "lived with the project" for the past three years and is pleased with the final product.

"I wanted to put the sites in context to make a connection between the place itself and the people who experienced it. Sometimes we're talking about three and four generations or more of the same family such as the Delanos."

One of the sites discussed for example, is the Standish Cellar Hole, for which the guide will inform the reader of its history, what there is to see, who owns and maintains the property, and how nature and other forces have changed it.

There are well-known sites such as Round Pond and the Tree of Knowledge and some not so well known such as the "Honest Dick Monument" and the Memory Garden.

There are transition passages describing the natural progression of the town relating to environment, geography, transportation, and some business and architectural impacts.

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Colonial Duxbury, the age of sail, and the Victorian era are among the six sections in which the sites are put in historical context.

Pillsbury said she had help for her research from many sources but expressed particular gratitude to Frances Leach, an expert on Myles Standish, Tony Kelso, for his help with Pilgrim history, and John Joline, for his assistance on matters relating to conservation and the environment.

Some 3,000 copies of the book featuring the Nathaniel Winsor House on its cover, have been released from the publisher this week and over 700 pre-publication orders have been received.

Pillsbury will be signing copies of the DR&HS's latest publication at Westwinds Book Shop on Sunday, Nov. 29, from 2 to 4 pm.

Duxbury, A Guide will be available at stores around town and through the society. Retail price of the book is \$19.99.

Site list for *Duxbury, A Guide* includes: Bay Farm, Round Pond Central Greenbelt and North Hill, North Hill Country Club, Bay Circuit Trail, Camp Wing, Cedarfield.

Also, Standish Cellar Hold, Brewster Lilacs, Alden Cellar Hole, Alden House, Duxborough Towne, Old Burying Ground, First and Second Meeting Houses, Alden Corner, Grave of Myles Standish, Grave of Ichabod Wiswall, Millbrook.

Also, Tinkertown, Tarkiln, Chandlerville, Tree of Knowledge, Ashdod, Island Creek, Charles R. Crocker Park, North Duxbury, Dingley Cemetery, West Duxbury, High Street.

Also, Old Shipbuilder's District, Winsor House Inn, Nathaniel Winsor Jr. House, Church of St. John the Evangelist, Pilgrim Church, Snug Harbor, The Village, Bluefish River Bridge, Town Square, Drew House, Maxwell Rose Garden, Spar Soak, "Honest Dick" Monument, King Caesar House, Bumpus Park,

Also, Captain David Cushman Preserve, Bailey's Corner, Mayflower Cemetery, Third Meeting House, First Parish Church, Old Town Hall, Memory Garden, Partridge Academy site, Boomer Square and Smith Family Tomb, Captain Gershom Bradford House, Major Judah Alden Store Site, Ford's Store Site,

Also, Myles Standish Monument, Duxbury Beach, Long Bridge, and the Duxbury Free Library.